Western Kansas Professional Workforce Development Conference

Friday, May 2, 2003

Theater
Dodge City Community College
Dodge City, Kansas

John Moore joined the Cessna Aircraft Company in 1982 as Senior Vice President of Human Resources. In 1999 he was named one of two Executive Vice Presidents of the company.

Moore assumed the position of Lieutenant Governor on January 13, 2003.

Several of his responsibilities at Cessna are relevant to the challenges he faces as Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of Commerce and Housing. These include workforce training and the negotiation and administration of health care plans.

John R. "Jack" Wempe currently serves as Chairman of the Kansas Board of Regents.

Wempe earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Rockhurst College, and a Master of Science degree from the University of Kansas. He began his professional career as a teacher and a coach before moving into public school administration.

Mr. Wempe served eight years in the Kansas House of Representatives, serving on the Assessment & Taxation, Economic Development and Education Committees.

Donna L. Shank is a member of the Kansas Board of Regents. She is Vice-President and co-owner of Al Shank Insurance, Inc., in Liberal. She earned degrees from Seward County Community College and Wichita State University in political science, and graduated Summa Cum Laude from both institutions. Shank was selected for the All-USA Community College Academic Team in 1994-95.

A graduate of Leadership Kansas, Shank is on the Board of the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Reginald L. Robinson is President & CEO of the Kansas Board of Regents. The agency governs the state's six universities, and coordinates those institutions, along with the state's 19 community colleges, 11 technical colleges and schools, and its municipal university.

Prior to his appointment, Robinson served as an Associate Professor of Law at KU from 1988-1993. In addition, he was with the United States Department of Justice in Washington, DC, and was named a White House Fellow.

Edward H. Hammond is the eighth president of Fort Hays State University.

He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Emporia State University and his Ph.D. from the University of Missouri, Columbia.

President Hammond has published widely. Because of his expertise as a futurist and in risk management, he is in demand nationally as a speaker and education consultant.

James R. Coffman is Provost and Professor of Clinical Sciences at Kansas State University, and is a former Dean of KSU's College of Veterinary Medicine.

As the chief academic officer at Kansas State University, Coffman's interests include developing flexible approaches to the application of faculty time and talent, and rethinking the faculty role and reward system so that outstanding research, teaching and other work in the academic environment are more effectively recognized, assessed and rewarded.

Alexa Pochowski is the Assistant Commissioner of Education with the Kansas State Department of Education. She is responsible for the Learning Services Division, which includes special education, Title I and other compensatory education programs, teacher education and certification, and school improvement and accreditation.

Pochowski has a Ph.D. in Educational Administration with a minor in special education, a M.S. in behavioral disabilities and a B.S. in sociology and psychology.

David J. Rebein is chairperson of the Dodge City Community College Board of Trustees. A partner in Rebein Bangerter PA, a Dodge City law firm, Rebein has been active in issues concerning local and state economic development.

Rebein earned a bachelor's degree from Washburn University, and a law degree from the University of Kansas. He is a 1997 graduate of Leadership Kansas, a member of the Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership Board of Directors, and a past member of the Kansas Association of Commerce and Industry Board of Directors.

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Agenda

10:00 a.m.	Welcome and introductions *Richard K. Burke, DCCC president*
	Remarks by · Jack Wempe · Edward Hammond
	Keynote address *John Moore, Lieutenant Governor of Kansas*
10:45 a.m.	Presentation of Western Kansas Workforce Development Issues: Current and Projected Data through 2006 *Richard K. Burke, David Rebein*
12:00 noon	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Break-out Discussion Groups
	Group 1: Opportunities and Challenges to Recruit and "Grow Our Own" Professional Services *Reggie Robinson, presider*
	Group 2: Opportunities and Challenges to Recruit and "Grow Our Own" Educators *James R. Coffman, presider*
	Group 3: Opportunities and Challenges of Business, Industry and Economic Development in Western Kansas *Jack Wempe, Donna Shank, presiders*
3:00 p.m.	Plans and Action Reports from the Break-out Discussion Group facilitators
4:00 p.m.	Conference Adjourns

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In his vision for economic growth, President Bush sets workforce development as one of his administration's highest priorities. The Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing, led by Lt. Governor John Moore, has placed workforce development as a top priority in the state. Western Kansas faces obstacles in attracting the professional services of medical doctors, nurses, dentists, accountants and educators to the region. The technological changes have prompted challenges to businesses and industries to educate and train a highly skilled workforce.

Welcome to Dodge City Community College, and to the first conference addressing some of the unique challenges affecting employers in the region.

Purpose of Conference

- Identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for the western Kansas professional workforce
- Form collaborative partnerships between government, businesses and industries and educational institutions to identify plans to address these opportunities and obstacles
- Consider forming a western Kansas task force to provide continuity and vision toward implementing strategic plans

Please join us for an informative, productive day. There is no charge to attend the Western Kansas Professional Workforce Development Conference.